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肽基脯氨酰顺反异构酶 Pin1 在阿尔茨海默病 发生发展中的作用*

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摘要 Pin1 是目前发现的人体内唯一识别蛋白质中 pSer/pThr-Pro 的顺反异构酶,与阿尔茨海默病(Alzheimer's disease, AD) 的发生存在重要联系. Pin1 调控 AD 相关分子的结构和功能,抑制神经纤维缠结、老年斑、脑血管淀粉样沉积等 AD 病理学 特征,促进神经前体细胞分化成神经元,在一定程度上起到了阻止 AD 发生和发展的作用.同时,人体内 Pin1 功能紊乱可 能是 AD 发生机制之一,尽管如此, Pin1 能否成为预防和治疗 AD 的靶蛋白还有待临床验证.鉴于目前针对脑内单分子的 AD 药物疗效较差,联合 Pin1 与相关分子的"多靶点药物组合"可能是一种未来 AD 防治的研究策略.

关键词 Pin1, 阿尔茨海默病, 神经纤维缠结, 老年斑, 脑血管淀粉样沉积 学科分类号 Q558+.2, Q71 **DOI**: 10.16476/j.pibb.2015.0057

阿尔茨海默病(Alzheimer's disease, AD)是引 起记忆和认知功能障碍的一种常见神经退行性疾 病,主要病理学特征为脑细胞内神经纤维缠结 (neurofibrillary tangles, NFTs)和脑细胞外老年斑 (senile plaques, SPs)等[1-3]. AD 发病率随年龄增长 不断上升,造成沉重的经济负担[4-5]。在中国人口 老龄化的背景下,探索 AD 发病机制并促进 AD 早 期防治研究具有重要意义. 本文总结了近年来发现 的肽基脯氨酰顺反异构酶(peptidyl-prolyl cis/trans isomerase, PPIase)Pin1 在 AD 发生发展中的作用, 并简要评述基于 Pin1 进行 AD 防治工作的发展趋势.

1 Pin1 的结构特点和功能简述

蛋白质中 Ser/Thr-Pro 可逆磷酸化是细胞信号 的重要调节机制[6-7]. Pin1 发现于 1996 年,是目前 发现的唯一特异识别 pSer/pThr-Pro 的顺反异构酶[6-7]. Pin1 含 163 个氨基酸残基,分子质量为 18 ku,含 WW 和 PPIase 两个结构域[8-9]. 在 Pin1 催化反应 时,WW结构域特异结合底物的pSer/pThr-Pro, PPIase 结构域催化其发生顺反构型转变[®]. Pin1 的

顺式异构作用调控数十种蛋白质的结构和功能,进 而调节一系列下游信号通路,影响多种疾病的发 生,例如 AD、癌症、原发性高血压等[7, 10-12]. Pin1 活性升高可能诱发前列腺癌、乳腺癌、肺癌等[13-16], 其活性降低可能导致 AD、原发性高血压等[10,12,17]. 随着研究的深入, Pin1 在 AD 发生发展中的作用不 断被揭示出来,对AD防治研究具有一定参考价值.

2 Pin1 对 AD 发生机制的调控作用

图 1 简述了 Pin1 在 AD 发生发展过程中的主 要调控作用. 首先, NFTs 和 SPs 分别由 Tau 蛋白 和β淀粉样蛋白(β-amyloid, Aβ)沉积而成, Pin1 促进 Tau 去磷酸化而阻止其形成 NFTs, Pin1减少

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Aβ 生成而抑制 $SPs^{[6, 12]}$. 其次,脑淀粉样血管病 (cerebral amyloid angiopathy,CAA)是 AD 的又一特 征,Aβ 是脑血管淀粉样沉积的主要成分,Pin1 阻 止 Aβ 在脑血管壁沉积,避免 CAA 发生[10, 18-19]. 另外,Pin1 通过调控 β-catenin 和 p53 等分子,影响神经前体细胞(neural progenitor cells,NPCs)分化和神经元的生长与凋亡.

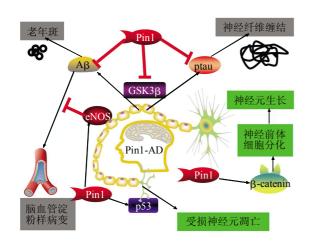


Fig. 1 The primary roles of Pin1 in regulating the main pathological characteristics of Alzheimer's disease

图 1 Pin1 对阿尔茨海默病主要病理学
特征的主要调控作用

2.1 Pin1 抑制神经纤维缠结的形成

如图 2 所示, Tau 过度磷酸化和沉积是形成 NFTs 的主要原因[8, 20-22]. 哈弗大学卢坤平教授最早 发现 Pin1 阻止 Tau 沉积[23], 随后证实 Pin1 调控 Tau 的作用位点主要是 Thr231-Pro. Tau 的 pThr231-Pro 具有顺式和反式两种空间构型, Nakamura 等首次制备了顺反构型特异性的免疫抗 体,并且证实含反式 pThr231-Pro 的 Tau 具有正常 生物学功能,而含顺式 pThr231-Pro 的 Tau 无微管 结合能力并且易沉积[8,20,24-25]. 然而, Pin1 催化 Tau 的顺式 pThr231-Pro 转变为反式构型后,就可以被 蛋白磷酸酶 2A(protein phosphatase 2A, PP2A)催化 去磷酸化,从而避免沉积和形成 NFTs[7-8,24,26].如果 Pin1 活性降低, 顺式 Tau 不能被有效地转变为反 式构型,则会加速 Tau 沉积和 NFTs 形成[20, 26-28]. 沉积和错误折叠的 Tau 还可像朊蛋白一样,在神经 元之间扩散,逐步引起神经功能障碍[29-30].此外, Pin1 还能促进 Tau 的 Ser202、Thr205、Ser235 和 Ser404 等位点去磷酸化,也有助于防止 NFTs 形成門.

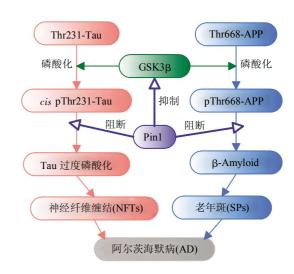


Fig. 2 Pin1 prevents the formation of neurofibrillary tangles (NFTs) and senile plaques (SPs) in Alzheimer's disease

图 2 Pin1 阻止阿尔茨海默病中神经纤维
缠结和老年斑的形成

与此同时,糖原合成酶激酶 3β (glycogen synthase kinase 3beta,GSK3 β)可催化 Tau 的多个位点(包括 Thr231)发生磷酸化,推动 Tau 沉积进程^[28,32]. Pin1 可以结合在 GSK3 β 的 pThr330-Pro 而抑制 GSK3 β 活性;若 Pin1 活性降低,GSK3 β 活性就会增强并造成 Tau 沉积加重^[33-34]. 因此,Pin1 既能阻止 Tau 被 GSK3 β 磷酸化,也能促进已经磷酸化的 Tau 发生去磷酸化,阻止 Tau 沉积和 NTFs 形成.

2.2 Pin1 抑制老年斑的形成

Takafumi Uchida 和卢坤平研究团队最早发现Pin1 抑制 Aβ 生成和沉积,见图 2^[35-36]. Aβ 是淀粉样蛋白前体(amyloid precursor protein,APP)裂解产生的不溶性多肽^[37-38]. GSK3β 催化 APP 的 Thr668发生磷酸化,促进 APP 裂解生成 Aβ; Pin1 抑制GSK3β 活性可以减少 Aβ 生成^[33]. Pin1 还能结合APP 的 pThr668-Pro,调控 APP 结构,使 APP 按照不产生 Aβ 的方式降解^[35, 39]. 若将 GSK3β 的Thr330或 APP 的 Thr668定点突变后,Pin1 抑制Aβ 生成的作用均无法实现^[33]. 因此,Pin1 既能阻止 APP 被 GSK3β 磷酸化,也能促使已磷酸化的APP 沿着不产生 Aβ 的方式降解,抑制 SPs 形成.

2.3 Pin1 阻止脑血管淀粉样沉积的产生

一氧化氮(nitric oxide, NO)能促进血管舒张, 增强血管动力,增加血液灌注量,防止血管功能紊 乱^[10,40]. 我们曾阐述 Pin1、内皮型一氧化氮合成酶 (endothelial nitric oxide synthase, eNOS)和 Aβ组成一条反馈调控信号通路,其中 Pin1 和 eNOS 协同地阻止 Aβ在脑血管中沉积^[10,40-41]. 如图 3 所示,Pin1 调控 eNOS 的 pSer116 去磷酸化后,会增强 eNOS 活性和 NO 生成; Pin1 活性降低则引起 eNOS 过度磷酸化、活性丧失、NO 合成量减少等^[42-43]. 结合上文所述,Pin1 既可以抑制 Aβ生成,也可以增强 NO 生成和促进脑血管舒张动力,从而阻止 Aβ在脑血管内壁沉积^[10,44]. 另外,受 Pin1 调控的 eNOS 可以抑制 APP 表达量,减少生成 Aβ的原料,也有助于减少 Aβ 沉积和 CAA 发生^[40].

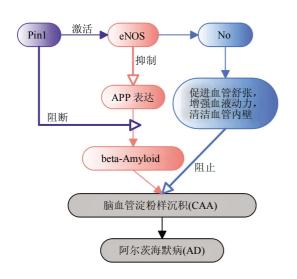


Fig. 3 Pin1 prevents cerebral amyloid angiopathy (CAA) in Alzheimer's disease
图 3 Pin1 阻止阿尔茨海默病中脑血管淀粉样沉积

2.4 Pin1 促进神经前体细胞分化为神经元

连环素蛋白 β-catenin 具有促进细胞分化和生长的作用,β-catenin 活性降低可引起神经元不稳定和凋亡[8,45-46]. Pin1 可以结合 β-catenin 的 pSer246位点,阻止 β-catenin 被 APC- 蛋白酶系统降解,从而增强 β-catenin 的稳定性和活性[8,47]. 进一步而言,有研究发现 β-catenin 促进神经前体细胞分化成神经元,起到维持神经元正常功能的作用,而当Pin1 活性降低时,β-catenin 的上述作用会受到严重阻碍 $^{[45-46,48-49]}$.

2.5 Pin1 调节神经元凋亡

根据细胞周期调控紊乱假说,肿瘤抑制因子 p53 可以激活下游基因 p21, p21 可以引起 G1/S 细

胞周期阻滞^[50-51]. 如图 4 所示,Pin1 调控 p53-p21 信号通路与神经元凋亡有关. 早期研究认为,Pin1 结合 p53 的 pSer33、pThr81 和 pSer315 等位点,增强 p53 稳定性及其对 p21 的转录活性^[52-54]. 近来研究发现: Pin1 活性较高时,倾向于增强 p53 的下游信号通路; 而 Pin1 活性较低时,则易引起 p53 泛素化修饰和降解^[55]. 另外,Pin1 还可促使 p53 与细胞凋亡抑制因子 iASPP 解离,启动细胞凋亡相关基因(如 p21)的表达^[54,56].

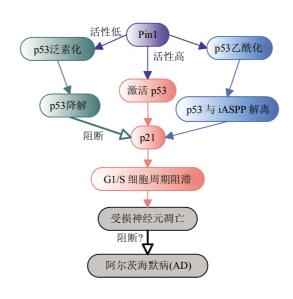


Fig. 4 Pin1 regulates the neuron apotosis *via* the p53-p21 signalling pathway

图 4 Pin1 通过 p53-p21 信号通路调控神经元凋亡

p53-p21 信号通路引发的神经元凋亡对 AD 的意义尚未阐明.一方面,该信号通路过度激活可能加重 AD 病理.另一方面,由于 p53 通常在细胞受到损伤时才会显著激活[\$2-53],那么如图 4 所示,当神经元受到损伤时,若 Pin1 激活 p53-p21 信号通路则会促使受损神经元凋亡;否则,受损神经元还可能引起周围正常神经元发生功能障碍[29].

3 人体内影响 Pin1 功能的因素及其与 AD 发生机制的联系

鉴于 Pin1 对 AD 病理学特征的调控作用,人体内 Pin1 活性降低或丧失可能加速 AD 的发生和发展. 图 5 列举了人体内影响 Pin1 功能的一些因素.

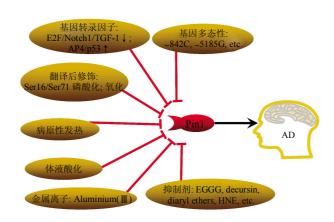


Fig. 5 The factors that inhibit the function of Pin1 in vivo, potentially contributing to the development of Alzheimer's disease

图 5 人体内抑制 Pin1 活性并可能导致

图 5 人体内抑制 Pinl 沽性开可能导致 阿尔茨海默病的因素

3.1 PIN1 基因启动子区多态性

PIN1 基因(编码 Pin1 蛋白)启动子区多态性位点,如 -842G>C 和 -5185G>C,影响 PIN1 基因转录效率及 Pin1 蛋白表达量,与 AD 发病率呈现一定相关性[14,57-59]. 与 -842G 相比,-842C 可降低体内 PIN1 基因转录效率和 Pin1 蛋白质含量[14,58]; 与 -5185G 相比,-5185C 会引起体内 Pin1 蛋白含量上调约 2 倍[59]. 因此,携带 -842C 或 -5185G 等位基因的人群 Pin1 活性较低,他们分别比 -842G 或 -5185C 等位基因携带者(Pin1 活性较高)罹患 AD 的风险更高[58-59].

3.2 转录调控因子

PIN1 基因转录效率受到多种转录因子的调控. 一方面,对 PIN1 基因转录起正调控作用的有 E2F^[60-61]、Notch1^[62]、IGF-1^[63]等,它们能增强 PIN1 基因的转录效率,提高体内 Pin1 蛋白的含量和活性. 另一方面,AP4、p53 等可以结合 PIN1 基因启动子区的功能响应元件,负调控 Pin1的基因转录并抑制 Pin1 活性^[59,64]. 这些转录因子与 AD 发生和发展的联系还有待进一步研究.

3.3 翻译后修饰

Pin1 的一些氨基酸残基可发生翻译后修饰,影响其结构和功能[65-67]. 蛋白激酶 PKA、PKC 等可以催化 Pin1 的 Ser16(位于 WW 结构域)发生磷酸化,降低 Pin1 与底物结合的特异性,使 Pin1 丧失对 Tau 的调控作用^[26,66]. 蛋白激酶 DAPK1 可催化

Pin1 的 Ser71(位于 PPIase 结构域)发生磷酸化,显著抑制 Pin1 的催化活性[^{68-69]}. 在 AD 病人的神经组织中还发现 Pin1 存在氧化修饰,氧化修饰抑制 Pin1 对底物的催化活性,并影响 AD 发展进程[^{70-72]}. 此外,Pin1 蛋白翻译后错误折叠引起的沉积也被认为是 AD 的一种病理学特征^[73].

3.4 病原性发热

当人体受到外源微生物侵袭时,通常会发生持续发热,长时间发热可引起神经组织发生 Tau 聚合和 Aβ 沉积等,这与 Pin1 活性丧失所引起的 AD 病理学特征类似[74-76]. 我们利用多种生物化学技术分析了温度升高对 Pin1 结构和功能的影响,并且发现: Pin1 是一种温度敏感型的蛋白质,较高温度可破坏 Pin1 的二级结构和三级结构,并导致Pin1 活性丧失[77-78]. 这些结果对"病原性发热增加AD 风险"提供了一种理论解释[11].

3.5 细胞微环境酸化

随着年龄增长,体内代谢过程异常和代谢产物堆积可以造成细胞微环境酸化,与 Aβ 沉积和神经元坏死有关[79-80]. 早期研究发现酸性 pH会显著抑制Pin1 活性[9],最近我们证实酸性 pH 可以导致 Pin1结构中色氨酸微环境改变、二级结构和三级结构破坏等,为酸性 pH 抑制 Pin1 活性提供了结构学证据,这些原因会在一定程度上增强 AD 发病风险[81].

3.6 金属离子

铝、铜、铁等金属离子代谢紊乱在 AD 发病早期起着促进作用^[82-85]. 细胞内铝离子含量与 Tau 沉积及 NFTs 形成显著相关^[84,86], 铝离子还影响 APP降解、Aβ 生成和 SPs 的形成^[87-88]. 我们利用定点突变技术构建了 Pin1 的多个突变体分子,通过分析发现: 铝离子特异结合在 Pin1 的 WW 结构域,阻碍 Pin1 与底物的相互作用,并抑制 Pin1 活性,支持了"高浓度铝离子可能诱发 AD"的观点^[89].

3.7 小分子化合物

由于 Pin1 在肿瘤发生和转移过程中起促进作用,一些抑制 Pin1 活性的小分子化合物有可能成为抗癌药物[16,90-91]. 例如,表没食子儿茶素 (epigallocatechin gallate, EGCG)[92]和紫花前胡素 (decursin)[15]等都可抑制 Pin1 活性,起到一定抗肿瘤效应. 那么,当这些物质用于癌症防治时,需要密切关注它们对于神经系统的毒副作用,以及是否会导致 AD 等疾病. 体内脂类物质被氧化的产物 4-羟基壬烯酸(4-hydroxynonenal,HNE)可以结合 Pin1活性中心的 His157 和 Cys113,抑制 Pin1 的活

性,可能也与 AD 发生有关[93].

4 结语和展望

本文简要总结了近几年关于 Pin1 阻止 AD 发病的新进展. 现在仍缺少有效的 AD 预防和治疗方法,而且一旦出现 AD 临床症状则疾病进程难以逆转,因此必须重视 AD 发病机制和早期干预的研究^[30,38,94]. 针对 AD 病理学特征的复杂性,已有多种关于 AD 发病机理的理论或假说,包括 Aβ 沉积、基因调控异常、自由基损伤、钙离子通道受损、胆碱能系统损害、金属离子代谢失衡、羰基应激等,但都不能完全解释所有的 AD 病理学特征[^{21-22,30,82,95]},那么推测 Pin1 异常可能也只是 AD 的重要发病机制之一.

自 Pin1 被发现以来,它与 AD 发生和发展的联系备受关注.至今 SCI 数据库收录 Pin1 与 AD 之间联系的论文约 160 多篇(近 3 年有 50 多篇,增长超过 30%),这些研究主要在美国、意大利、法国等,中国的相关研究正在逐年增加.目前相关研究主要集中在细胞和动物实验方面,尚无基于Pin1 进行 AD 治疗的临床研究.不过有研究认为,基于 Pin1 的蛋白质工程药物或提高神经元中 Pin1 表达量可能有效治疗 AD [6.8.96].但是,由于 AD 发病机制呈现"多因异质性",针对脑内单基因、单分子的 AD 药物在临床实验中疗效较差(尽管在细胞及动物实验水平有一定作用)[30,38,82,95],因此基于Pin1 进行 AD 的治疗能否达到较好的临床效果,还有待将来进一步临床实践检验.

尽管如此,基于 Pin1 进行 AD 预防和治疗仍是重要的探索方向,只是在未来研究中,需要正确认识 Pin1 异常与其他 AD 发病机制的联系,也要正确看待 Pin1 与其他相关分子在 AD 发病过程中的协同作用. 进一步而言,Pin1 在 AD 中的作用主要归结于它对多条可逆磷酸化信号通路的调控,因为 Pin1 催化的 pSer/pThr-Pro 顺反异构是联系磷酸化和去磷酸化的重要环节;在这些信号通路中,处于 Pin1 上游的有催化底物发生磷酸化的 GSK3β、MAPK、CDK等磷酸激酶,而处于 Pin1 下游的还有催化底物去磷酸化的 PP2A 等磷酸酯酶,理论上这些分子出现异常都可能导致信号通路阻断并引起相关疾病[6-8]. 因此,参照已有资料,在未来 AD 治疗研究中,联合 Pin1 和其他分子进行"多靶点药物组合"可能是一个研究思路[88.97]. 此外,由于

Pin1 调控的细胞信号通路具有极高的多样性[6-7,12,16], Pin1 在 AD 发生和发展中的作用可能远不止上述内容,更加深入的机制还有待进一步探索.

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The Role of the Peptidyl-Prolyl *cis/trans* Isomerase Pin1 in The Occurrence and Development of Alzheimer's Disease*

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Abstract Pin1 is the only known *cis-trans* isomerase that recognizes pThr/pSer-Pro in proteins, relevant to the pathogenesis of Alzheimer's disease (AD). Pin1 regulates the structures and functions of some molecules that are related to AD, inhibits the main AD pathological characteristics such as neurofibrillary tangles (NFTs), senile plaques (SPs), and cerebral amyloid angiopathy (CAA), promotes the differentiation of neural progenitor cells (NPCs) to neurons, and to some extent prevents the occurrence and development of AD. Meanwhile, Pin1 dysfunction *in vivo* may be involved in the pathogenesis of AD. Nevertheless, whether Pin1 could be a therapeutic target for the prevention and treatment of AD still needs to be verified clinically. Considering of the poor efficacy of AD medicines that target each single molecule in brain, the "combined multiple-target medicine" focusing on Pin1 and other related molecules may be a therapeutic strategy for AD in the future.

Key words Pin1, Alzheimer's disease, neurofibrillary tangles, senile plaques, cerebral amyloid angiopathy **DOI**: 10.16476/j.pibb.2015.0057

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